



ARKANSAS

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Program Overview

In 2002, nine schools in two Arkansas school districts instituted the Teacher Advancement Program (TAP). TAP is a performance-based and career-focused program that was established by the Milken Foundation in 1999. In 2003, with additional funds provided by the U.S. Department of Education to the Milken Foundation to expand TAP, six additional schools in Arkansas implemented TAP. The districts implementing the TAP program are Lincoln School District, Rogers School District, Nettleton School District, Van Buren School District, and the Little Rock School District.

TAP rewards teachers who increase student achievement while giving teachers the tools and professional development needed to improve student achievement. The four principles that guide the national TAP model serve as the basis for Arkansas's TAP program:

- Multiple career paths for teachers
- Ongoing and applied professional development
- Increased accountability focused on instruction
- Performance-based compensation

Through the multiple career paths component of TAP, teachers have the ability to earn additional compensation by becoming a master or mentor teacher to other teachers in their school. By demonstrating mastery in both content and pedagogy, master and mentor teachers take on leadership responsibilities while evaluating and assisting other teachers. In addition, teachers can earn performance-based compensation by teaching in hard-to-fill subjects, receiving strong evaluations based on classroom observations, and attaining high student achievement at the classroom and school levels.

Program Information

- [Teacher Advancement Program Information](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)



Select Articles and Reports

- *AllBusiness.com*. (October 1, 2003). [*Teacher Advancement Program Expands.*](#)